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THOUSANDS DIE IN BAYONET CHARGES ON GERMAN LINES

(Continued from First Page.)

Military experts here now state that the positions occupied by the Germans are of such strength that the battle of the Aisne may not become decisive in character for weeks.

Paris Optimistic Over Noyan-Verdun Battle

PARIS, Sept. 20.—Optimism over the outcome of the greatest battle of history that is raging along the Aisne line from Noyan to the south of Verdun reigns here today.

Official reports from the front show the allies making slight gains, sometimes almost imperceptible, while the Germans are said to be barely holding their own as they meet assault with counter-assault, fighting with stubbornness to hold their lines of yesterday.

All through the night the fighting raged in their water-filled trenches soaked to the skin, while the thunder of the big guns rolled and the shrieking shells swept over them. While the darkness lasted the terrible artillery duel continued, and the bursting shells and cries of the wounded made the night an inferno of horror.

Just at the break of dawn came a lull in the firing and all along the great line the weary forces of the allies began their desperate assaults. Cavalry and infantry played their part in the charges that were resumed with unabated ferocity. Time and again bayonet attacks were met by the Germans in their trenches, and at several

points the invaders were swept back from their wonderfully protected positions.

No material gains are reported, for the German generals time after time hurled reinforcements to the weakening spots and the exhausted allies were driven back from the coveted positions gained by a fearful toll of human life.

The loss of life today is said to have been the greatest of any single engagement, owing to the fact that the fighting was largely in the open and charges from both sides were made in reckless abandon.

Recruits were decimated and thousands died in the hand to hand struggles that followed the desperate attacks. The discovery that members of the Chinese Red Cross to the number of Shanghai and have established a hospital in a hotel.

The Chinese government has instituted severe measures designated as martial law in several provinces and many important cities. The discovery that rebels in the capital were preparing to take advantage of the government's present financial and diplomatic difficulties is causing scores of arrests and many executions.

JAPAN RE-ENFORCES TROOPS AT TSINGTAU

TOKYO, Sept. 20.—Another force of Japanese imperial troops, co-operating with the Japanese fleet, has landed at Laoshan bay, northwest of Kiaochow, according to official announcement.

A train on the Shantung railroad at Kiaochow was seized and the president of the road, who was a passenger, was made prisoner.

There was no resistance to the Japanese landing. A general attack on Tsingtau is thought to be imminent.

PEKING, Sept. 20.—According to information received here the first German officer killed before Tsingtau was Baron von Eisenbach, who, previous to going to Kiaochow was second secretary of the German legation at Peking. He was shot in a skirmish September 16, between advance guards at Lieutung.

Postal communication with Tsingtau was ended by the Japanese yesterday. From information derived from Chinese and other sources in the regions of Kiaochow it appears that Japanese infantry and cavalry are proceeding from Lungkau to invest Tsingtau before landing siege artillery at some convenient harbor.

The Japanese legation states that roads must be constructed before heavy guns can be transported to positions near the German stronghold.

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WEATHER REPORT.

The forecast for the District of Columbia—Fair tonight and Monday; light to moderate variable winds.

TEMPERATURES
The temperature today as registered at various places—

At the Weather Bureau
8 a. m. 61 8 a. m. 67
9 a. m. 62 9 a. m. 68
10 a. m. 63 10 a. m. 69
11 a. m. 64 11 a. m. 70
12 noon 65 12 noon 71
1 p. m. 66 1 p. m. 72
2 p. m. 67 2 p. m. 73

TIDE TABLE
High tide 8:19 a. m. and 8:28 p. m.
Low tide 2:16 a. m. and 2:33 p. m.

SUN TABLE
Sun rises 5:45 Sun sets 6:01

Did the Russians Tiptoe by London?

LONDON, Sept. 20.—For weeks there has been in circulation a report relative to the employment of Russian troops in the western theater of war, which is remarkable for its persistence, if for nothing else. At this time the London clubs and the London newspaper offices are split into two camps—those who scoff at the Russian rumor and those who implicitly believe in it.

The reports began in unassuming fashion. It was at first said that a certain number of Russian staff officers had come to England to get in touch with the military plans of their English and French allies. Then a certain small number of troops was spoken of. Before long these had swelled to two, three, or even more army corps.

Official denials were forthcoming. Nevertheless, the story of the Russians continued to gain ground. An American correspondent has personally spoken to at least a dozen persons who are prepared to bet anything that the Russians are here, or have been here and are now in France. None the less, first-hand testimony as to their advent is remarkable for its absence.

In at least two London newspaper offices it is firmly believed that "the Russians" are going to make their appearance in the western field at a crucial moment. In another newspaper office every possible means of investigation has been tried, with the result that the news editor is prepared to bet \$250 to \$25 there is not, and has not been, any Russian force in England.

MILITARY CENSORS ACTIVE.

At the moment of writing an indication comes from the press bureau that the military censors are not permitting some of the London papers to print references in dispatches from their Continental correspondents of Russians being in the field with the French and British.

Amid all these conflicting reports, the wise man will probably decide that it is impossible to predicate definitely and to hazard his money either way. While the Russian story was at its height the favorite theory of the amateur strategist was that the "Cossacks" had been landed at Ostend and Dunkirk and were going to make their attack on the rear of the German line of battle at the psychological moment when the Germans were busily engaged on their front with the allied French and British. Hundreds of people said that Ostend was swarming with Cossacks.

"There has never been a single Russian soldier at Ostend," declares an official who arrived yesterday, "that is, unless he was in mufti."

Rumor Won't Down.
The Star prints the following: "The dispatch from Rome that German official news report the landing of 250,000 Russians in France has naturally created a great sensation in London."

This message is the latest phase of the most remarkable movement that ever has taken place in the military history of this country. For a fortnight

dence to tell them what you knew about the Russians. People talked about the Russians over the tea tables and in between the acts at the theaters. It was the great enigma, and everybody either gave or demanded an answer.

"Meanwhile details came pouring into the newspaper offices like a great river in flood, bearing on its bosom much fiction. But there was so much evidence that at last the most skeptical men in Fleet street declared that if this story was not true no event in history from the battle of Actium to the death of Napoleon could be accepted as true.

Stories of Russians in transit came from reliable correspondents all over the country. They came from Leith, from Werwick, from Tewkesbury, from Gloucester, from Dorking, from Dover. All through the heavy troop trains rumbled along the suburban glades of Herne Hill, down at Blackwater Station caddies from Sandhurst saw actual veritable Russian soldiers with whiskers. Somewhere in north London a suburban resident found a train pulled up by signals in a cutting at the bottom of his garden full of Russian soldiers. He gave them apples, and they replied "Thank you," or words to that effect in Russian.

There was the day when the L. N. W. R. was exclusively occupied by government trains and the day when trains with blinds drawn rolled continuously through Watford. At night there were lights behind the blinds, and so they vanished from the startled eyes of Herfordshire.

About this stage several newspapers—including the Star—submitted more or less pointed inquiries to the press bureau. The bureau responded gallantly to the call, and while it declared that the eyewitnesses who had seen the Russians must be "trained liars," it gave instructions that "nothing must be published about Russian troops."

To the trained ear Fleet street there was a singular lack of directness about these denials. As the great object of the war office would be to keep this news—if it were true—as long as possible from the knowledge of the Germans, it was not surprising that the bureau should deny it. It would obviously be idle to pull down the blinds on the Cossack troop trains through Watford for fear of German spies sending the news to Germany if it were to appear in the newspapers for all to read and repeat. So Fleet street sat tight as wax and waited for the day.

It has come at last in this roundabout manner, and the strangest chapter in the military history of Europe since we brought Russian troops to Holland to help Napoleon in '79 has been unfolded.

England Builds Huts for 500,000 Reserve Troops

LONDON, Sept. 20.—England continues preparations for a long war on a huge scale. Huts are being built for the military training camps to provide shelter for 500,000 men.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Final Retiring Sale of Bissell's Sample Jewelry Shop

From the Jewelry Business

616 14th St. N. W.

20,000 BEAUTIFUL PIECES of JEWELRY Must Go at Less Than Cost

NOTE—Sale Starts Promptly Tomorrow at 8:30 A. M.

About 1,000 heavy Solid Gold Children's Rings, reg. \$1.25 to \$2.00 values. 25c

About 1,000 fine Gold Filled Tie Clasps, reg. 50c value. 10c

About 2,000 pairs fine Gold Filled Beauty Pins, reg. 50c and \$1.00 value, per pair. 10c

About 1,000 fine Shell Back Combs, reg. \$1.00 to \$2.00 values, now. 25c

Entire Stock to go Regardless of Former Prices. Nothing Reserved.

616 14th St. N. W.

Allies Hold Heights Of The Aisne, London Hears

LONDON, Sept. 20.—The German crown prince's army is continuing its retreat, while on the Aisne the Franco-British forces hold all the heights along the right bank against the enemy, which is being repositioned from Le Mans.

In the center of the great battle line, which extends now from Noyan to Audincourt, the Germans are strongly entrenched, and are merely holding their own.

Intermittent but heavy fighting is going on night and day in the whole western theater of war.

Early this morning terrible fighting was resumed. The huge defending forces are engaged in the bitter struggle, which has lasted now for fourteen days, and then are recuperating before going to the attack.

Lord Kitchener, who is hurrying reinforcements toward England, is intent with the task of the allies, but his aid only be satisfied with all of England's new armies.

In the eastern theater of war the Allied forces, reinforced by several German army corps, have met in the trenches along the Aisne, and to the great of the Allies, the Russian left wing is before the enemy, the eastern Russian army advances.

At Jaroslavl, while the right wing is pushing forward by forced marches on the Aisne.

If the Russians win this tremendous

battle the whole of the czar's army will be free to invade Germany and march on Berlin.

This morning London hears there have been another route in Austria, with troops attacking the windows of the war office in Vienna and tearing up pictures of the aged emperor, the heir to the throne and of the defeated Austrian generals.

From Rome and other cities in Italy there are telegrams telling of pro-war demonstrations and of huge mass meetings, demanding that the government send the lot of Italy with France, Russia, and England. Mobs were marching through the streets cheering the allied armies.

Italy is deeply impressed by the tremendous losses of the Germans, the "Corps de Italie" retreating, the principal losses are suffering heavily.

Princess Frederick, sister-in-law of the king of Saxony, is dying of the shock caused by the loss of her husband and son, Prince Ernest. A cousin and a nephew also were killed.

The House of Lippe has lost three princes.

Two delegates from Roumania were present by the Italian prime minister yesterday, and it is the general opinion that Roumania is ready to send Transylvania at once if an understanding with Italy is effected.

The Italian government has exerted its utmost efforts to preserve the country's neutrality, but the logic of events and the spirit of the people are forcing the nation into war.

B. AND O. TRAIN IN WRECK AT CHESTER

CHESTER, Pa., Sept. 20.—A head-on collision on engine tender was responsible for the derailment of passenger train No. 3, of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, Woodlyn, one mile east of here, at 10 o'clock last night.

The entire train, including mail cars, baggage car, a smoker, and three passenger cars, was wrecked. The fact that the engine of the passenger train derailed first is attributed by railroad officials to the train being overloaded, and to the fact that it was running down for Chester when the accident occurred.

The injuries sustained by the passengers consist of bruises and cuts from broken glass. One woman, traveling alone, was removed to the hospital at Chester for treatment.

Dodge's British For 45 Days on Atlantic

BALTIMORE, Sept. 20.—After dodging back and forth on the Atlantic for seven weeks, and being several times captured by British ships, the German Lloyd liner Neckar, once reported captured by the British, was here this morning.

The Neckar sailed from Havana on August 8, after first unloading passengers from Galveston bound for Bremen. She was sent home by another steamer, but with fifty tons of coal on her bunkers and her crew living on reduced rations, the Neckar made her way back to port. In her present condition she is scarcely seaworthy.

By the steamer's officials, for her upper decks have been painted a dirty brown and her funnel black, thus aiding her attempt to keep her identity a secret.

Without played a large part in the captain's strategy on the Atlantic. Not once, until he was well within the Virginia capes, did he dare use his apparatus for sending messages. Intercepting messages between other steamships, and particularly between the British warships, enabled him to keep posted as to their whereabouts.

NEUTRALITY URGED BY BISHOP CURRIER

A ringing appeal for that sincere neutrality urged by President Wilson in his proclamation to Americans, was made by Bishop Charles Warren Currier of Matanzas, Cuba, this morning at the solemn high mass in cathedrals hall.

The solemn high mass in cathedrals hall, at the Catholic University, took formal shape when the national conference of bishops gathered in more men and women of prominence from every quarter of the United States attended the mass and the first session of the conference.

The mass was said by the Rt. Rev. Nicholas J. Mulvey, president of the bishops, assisted by the Most Rev. John J. Connelley of St. Thomas College. The officers of the mass were: The Rev. John J. Connelley, the Rev. Francis J. Sullivan, and the Rev. Joseph Mulvey, bishop of Matanzas.

The mass was in charge of the combined efforts of the United States and Holy Cross Colleges. Bishop Currier dwelt upon the necessity for the people to maintain their neutrality.

Accused of Robbing Woman's Stateroom

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—On the charge of burglary, George Hammer, thirty years old, was held in \$2,000 bail for trial in the Tombs court this morning. He is charged with having stolen a suitcase containing articles valued at \$60 belonging to Miss Annabelle H. Stanger, a daughter of 50 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, from her stateroom on the New England steamer "Comanche" about Commencement on Saturday night last before sailing time.

Edgar H. Gans, Lawyer, Is Dead at Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Sept. 20.—Edgar H. Gans, one of the leading members of the Maryland bar, died at his home, Beaumont, near here today. He was stricken with heart disease, Friday morning.

GRAPES GRAPES GRAPES

Tomorrow we will deliver to our city stores a car-load of FANCY NEW YORK CONCORD GRAPES, in the Pony Size Baskets.

No Orders Taken for Delivery

Owing to the tremendous demand for grapes at our price, stocks are practically sold out and carried away from our stores within a very short time after they are unloaded in the stores.

So it's a case of FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. Our city stores should all receive a supply not later than 10 A. M.

FANCY NEW YORK CONCORD GRAPES 11c PER BASKET PONY SIZE BASKETS

Jelly Glasses, per dozen 20c

Granulated Sugar, per pound. 7c

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